

NEWS RELEASE

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Unemployment Rates Increase in Most Metro Areas

Jobs up in half the Metros

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	May 2016	May 2015	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	5.2%	4.5%	0.7
Carbondale-Marion	6.1%	5.6%	0.5
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	4.8%	0.3
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.5%	5.9%	-0.4
Danville	7.3%	6.5%	0.8
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.4%	5.2%	0.2
Decatur	6.8%	6.5%	0.3
Elgin	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Kankakee	6.5%	6.3%	0.2
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	4.9%	4.9%	0.0
Peoria	6.5%	5.8%	0.7
Rockford	6.6%	6.3%	0.3
Springfield	4.8%	4.8%	0.0
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.8%	5.6%	0.2
Illinois Statewide	5.6%	5.7%	-0.1

** Data subject to revision.*

CHICAGO—A majority of Illinois' metropolitan (metro) areas experienced increases in their over-the-year unemployment rate and half of the metro areas had increases in nonfarm jobs, according to preliminary data released today by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES).

"While some metro areas saw job growth, too many didn't," said IDES Director Jeff Mays. "Key structural reforms can help the state grow more jobs as we sharpen our efforts to help unemployed job-seekers get back to work."

Illinois businesses added jobs in seven metro areas, in which the largest increases were seen in: Lake-Kenosha (+2.2 percent, +9,000), Rockford (+1.6 percent, +2,400), and Elgin (+1.2 percent, +3,000). Total nonfarm jobs in the Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division increased (+1.3 percent or +45,900). Illinois businesses lost jobs in seven metro areas including Bloomington (-2.9 percent, -2,800), Carbondale-Marion (-1.6 percent, -900), and the Quad Cities (-1.5 percent, -2,700). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metro areas

were: Education and Health Services (12 of 14), Retail Trade (10 of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (eight of 14).

Not seasonally adjusted data compares May 2016 with May 2015. The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.6 percent in May 2016 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in May 2016 and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – May 2016

Metropolitan Area	May 2016*	May 2015**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	94,200	97,000	-2,800
Carbondale-Marion MSA	56,400	57,300	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	110,700	110,500	200
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,715,500	3,669,600	45,900
Danville MSA	29,300	29,700	-400
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	182,800	185,500	-2,700
Decatur MSA	51,400	51,700	-300
Elgin Metro Division	260,700	257,700	3,000
Kankakee MSA	44,600	45,100	-500
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	416,900	407,900	9,000
Peoria MSA	178,300	180,400	-2,100
Rockford MSA	155,800	153,400	2,400
Springfield MSA	114,700	113,700	1,000
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	239,200	238,100	1,100
Illinois Statewide	6,035,400	6,001,900	33,500

**Preliminary **Revised*

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Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

	May- 16	May- 15	Over the Year Change
Rockford MSA			
Boone County	5.9%	5.6%	0.3
Winnebago County	6.7%	6.5%	0.2
Cities			
Belvidere City	6.8%	6.3%	0.5
Freeport City	6.3%	6.7%	-0.4
Rockford City	6.9%	6.4%	0.5
Counties			
Bureau County	6.0%	5.7%	0.3
Carroll County	5.5%	5.1%	0.4
DeKalb County	5.3%	5.1%	0.2
Henry County	6.1%	5.8%	0.3
JoDaviess County	5.6%	4.6%	1.0
Kane County	5.3%	5.2%	0.1
Lee County	5.0%	5.0%	0.0
McHenry County	4.8%	5.2%	-0.4
Ogle County	5.7%	5.7%	0.0
Stephenson County	5.9%	6.2%	-0.3
Whiteside County	5.8%	5.8%	0.0

Stephenson County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.9 percent in May 2016 from 6.2 percent in May 2015. The last time the May rate was equal to or lower than the current rate was in 2007 when it was 4.6 percent. For the month of May 2016, the number of people unemployed in the labor force was 1,300.

Total nonfarm employment increased by +100 compared to a year ago. Construction (+175) and Professional-Business Services (+50) added the most jobs from May 2015. The Financial Activities (-75) and Manufacturing (-50) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago.

Note:

- Monthly 2015 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February and March 2016, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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Rockford MSA Highlights

Help Wanted

Area employers advertised for 4,900 positions in May and approximately 87 percent sought full-time employment, according to Help Wanted OnLine data compiled by the Conference Board. It is a global, independent business membership and research association. Employers actually need more workers than the help wanted advertising indicates because some industries, such as construction, typically do not advertise job openings.

Rockford MSA

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 6.6 percent in May 2016 from 6.3 percent in May 2015 as the number of people employed and unemployed in the labor force increased from a year ago. For the month of May 2016, the estimated number of people unemployed in the labor force was 11,200.

Total nonfarm employment increased +2,400 compared to May 2015. Professional-Business Services (+1,600), Retail Trade (+600), and Educational-Health Services (+500) sectors led other local industries in payroll gains. Construction (-400), Information (-300), and Manufacturing (-200) industries recorded declines compared to one year ago.

Ogle County

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.7 percent in May 2016 was unchanged May 2015. For the month of May 2016, the number of people unemployed in the labor force was 1,500.

Total nonfarm employment increased +325 compared to May 2015. Manufacturing (+100) and Trade, Transportation, & Utilities (+75) sectors added the most jobs over the year. The Government (-75) sector recorded an employment decline compared to one year ago.